

BRAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – April 27, 2010

- **John Carman was necessarily absent and appointed Ken Hartman to president over the Committee meeting. Ken called the BRAC Implementation Committee to order at 7:35 p.m.**

- **Phil provided his monthly BRAC Updates:**
 - **The next BRAC Committee meeting scheduled for May 18 has been shifted to May 11 to accommodate a presentation by MC-DOT's consultant on the MD355 Crossing Project.**

 - **STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS:**
 - **UPDATED BRAC TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY PROJECT MATRIX, as of 4-19-10:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/transpo_project_matrix-041910.pdf

 - **10-6-09 Bethesda BRAC Transportation Investment Priorities: A joint MDOT/MC-DOT memo listing phased implementation of projects and funding streams:**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/bracprojects-tiers-100609.pdf>
 - **11-17-09 Description of "Tiers" and "Phases" of Intersections Improvement Program:**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/intersections-tiersphases-summary-111709.pdf>

 - **CONGRESSIONAL EARMARK:** As of now there is no new update on the \$300 million earmark to mitigate traffic problems around military hospitals at NNMC Bethesda and Fort Belvoir. The funds have been appropriated and Congressional and DoD Staff are working to get the funds executed for their intended purpose at the soonest possible date. The supplemental defense appropriations measure currently being considered by the Appropriations Committee is one possible, near term vehicle for the fix.

 - **The Final Purpose & Need SUMMARY for the MD 355/Rockville Pike Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro station, prepared by the Montgomery County Dept. of Transportation (MC-DOT), is on-line. It will be discussed at the next Committee meeting on May 11, along with design concepts for the project.**

- The Final Purpose & Need SUMMARY can be found on the BRAC web site's "MC-DOT NEPA STUDY Page":
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/BRAC/nepa-pedaccess.asp>
 - Using this SUMMARY, MC-DOT will create a Draft Purpose & Need STATEMENT.
- **Concept Drawings for the MC-DOT Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Project for the NNMC-NIH area are on line.** They were presented at the March 24, 2010 Public Meeting at North Chevy Chase Elementary School:
- These drawings and complete information on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Project can be found on the TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE Page:
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/BRAC/transportation.asp>
 - The Project includes:
 - Sidewalks along the east side of Rockville Pike (MD 355) from Jones Bridge Road to Cedar Lane;
 - Bike path along south side of West Cedar Lane from Old Georgetown Road to Rockville Pike;
 - Bike path connection along Cedar Lane to Rock Creek Trail at Beach Drive;
 - Bike path along north side of Jones Bridge Road from Rockville Pike to Connecticut Avenue; and
 - Signage improvements along Battery Lane and Glenbrook Parkway.
 - (NOTE: A planned extension of the Bethesda Trolley Trail to NIH is part of a separate SHA project.)
- **On April 14, 2010 the Montgomery County Dept. of Transportation (MC-DOT) held a Public Meeting on the Rehabilitation of the Cedar Lane Bridge over Rock Creek, which includes expanded pedestrian and bicycle facilities.**
- MC-DOT Presentations and Design Concepts on the Cedar Lane bridge project:
<http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/Common/Projects.aspx?id=509132-05&DatabaseType=SQL§ion=Facility%20Planning>

- **CONGRATULATIONS TO DISTRICT 16 DELEGATE BILL BRONROTT, who has accepted a position in the Obama Administration at the U.S. Dept. of Transportation:**
<http://www.wbal.com/absolutenm/templates/story.aspx?articleid=49273>
- **OTHER UPDATES:**
 - Leslie Weber and Ilaya Hopkins reported on a Park & Planning Commission Open House on the Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan, which had been conducted earlier in the day. A new transit-oriented sector plan is being developed in anticipation of the Purple Line, which would include a stop on Connecticut Avenue in North Chevy Chase.
 - Andy Scott reported that MDOT and the State Highway Administration anticipate bringing the Intersections Improvement project to the Park & Planning Commission for mandatory referral hearings sometime in June. He said that all the Phases of the intersections project would be ready for hearings, except possibly for Tier 3, Phase 5 at the northwest corner of the MD 355/Cedar Lane intersection. Any updates to the designs will be posted on the BRAC web site.
- **NNMC**
 - Captain Mike Malanoski gave a presentation on the NNMC Comprehensive Master Plan. While the Facilities Master Plan which has been discussed previously at the BIC remains the same, the organizational structure of the Base is changing under BRAC. Currently, NNMC is a naval base that functions as a medical center. Under BRAC, the medical functions at NNMC will operate under the auspices of JTF CapMed -- the military health care system for the National Capital Region -- while the physical campus will have its own management structure known as Naval Support Activity (NSA). Admiral Nathan, currently the NNMC Commanding Officer, will be CO for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Capt. Malanoski will be CO for Naval Support Activity-Bethesda. *(The actual presentation will be added to the web site with this summary when it is available.)*
 - Because NNMC ran short of time last month, Jeff Miller led a follow-up Q&A on NNMC's traffic mitigation efforts. Jeff noted that NNMC is constantly reevaluating its traffic counts and campus population estimates in order to derive the most efficient ways to move traffic on and off campus and through the neighborhoods. There was much discussion of NNMC's proposal to add a traffic signal at MD 355 @ North Wood Drive. Neighborhood and NIH representatives were concerned that such a signal could have very negative impacts outside the Navy campus. Jeff reiterated the need to relieve extensive backups and to move traffic off its campus, and Ollie noted that there is very little room to widen campus roads beyond current plans. They noted Navy plans to relocate its

Vehicles Inspection Facility to the University Gate on Jones Bridge Road, and to improve other gates on Jones Bridge Road to encourage more campus traffic to utilize them.

- **PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION FOLLOW-UP ON COMMUNITY VISION:**

- Larry Cole and Dan Hardy of the County's Park and Planning Commission staff led a follow-up discussion about long-range community vision. They anticipate that the Commission will conduct Mandatory Referral hearings on the SHA Intersections Improvement project, and they emphasized that these projects can be constructed while keeping in mind long-term enhancements that promote community livability. Committee members emphasized the need to ensure mobility in the community and around the Medical Center complex, while ensuring the principles of livability remain a priority. **(This presentation and their February presentation are posted on the web site with this meeting summary.)**
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 7:30 p.m., at the BCC Regional Services Center. The County's Dept. of Transportation intends to discuss the MD 355 Crossing Project. **NOTE: This meeting will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, May 11th, to accommodate a presenter who cannot attend a meeting normally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, May 18th. The meeting will be held in Conference Room D, which is across the hall from the usually meeting space in Conference Rooms A/B.**

Committee members in attendance, April 27, 2010:

Phil Alperson, County BRAC Coordinator
Larry Cole, Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission
Edgar Gonzalez, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Leslie Weber for Brian Gragnolati, Suburban Hospital
Ken Hartman, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center
Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn.
Ed Krauze, Bethesda-Parkview Citizens Association
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association
Seth Maiman, Western Montgomery Citizens Advisory Board
Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Home Owners Association
Patrick O'Neill, Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
Andy Scott, MDOT
Paul Thaler, Locust Hill Citizens Association
Sara Morningstar for Melanie Wenger, Montgomery County Office of Intergovt. Relations
Susan Hinton for Dan Wheeland, NIH

Ex-officio:

Jahantab "J-Tab" Siddiqui (Sen. Barbara Mikulski)
Ken Reichard (Sen. Ben Cardin)
Joan Kleinman (Rep. Chris Van Hollen)

Susan Buffone (Council Member Roger Berliner)
Jeff Miller, NNMC Transportation Program Manager
David "Ollie" Oliveria, NNMC BRAC Program Manager
Captain Mike Malanoski, NNMC Naval Support Activity

Other Attendees

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest Home Owners Association
Dawn Chaikin
Pat Coecaro, Chevy Chase Park
Michele Cornwell, Chevy Chase Land Company
Sandy Dean, NAVFAC
Dan Hardy, M-NCPPC
Richard Hoyer, ACT
Karen Kuker-Kihl, Promenade Towers
Barbara Magistro, Chevy Chase Park
Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont
Paul McComb, NNMC
Lauri Spiliotes for Avice Meehan, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Debbie Spielberg, Councilmember Marc Elrich
Ken Strickland, Chevy Chase Valley Citizens Association
Andrew Ujifusa, Gazette Newspapers
Robert Weesner, Village of North Chevy Chase
Julie Woepke, Maryland DBED, Office of Military and Federal Affairs